

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1 1. (Currently amended) A method of ~~installing~~ using an energy recovery
2 apparatus in an air-conditioning system comprising a water tank, a feed pipe line for feeding
3 water from the water tank to air-conditioning loads ~~such as a heat source or a fan coil via a~~
4 ~~pump~~, a return pipe line for leading water which has passed through the air-conditioning loads
5 into the water tank, and a pressure sustaining valve disposed in the return pipe line, the method
6 comprising the steps of:

7 connecting, to the return pipe line, a branch pipe line branching into the water
8 tank from the return pipe line upstream of the pressure sustaining valve; and connecting an
9 energy recovery apparatus in the branch pipe line[.];

10 wherein the pressure sustaining valve is configured to selectively open and close
11 depending on pressure in the return pipe line.

1 2. (Currently amended) An air-conditioning system comprising: a water
2 tank; a feed pipe line for feeding water from the water tank to air-conditioning loads ~~such as a~~
3 ~~heat source or a fan coil via a pump~~; a return pipe line for leading the water which has passed
4 through the air-conditioning loads into the water tank; and a pressure sustaining valve disposed
5 in the return pipe line, the system further comprising:

6 a branch pipe line connected to the return pipe line upstream of the pressure
7 sustaining valve and branching into the water tank; and an energy recovery apparatus connected
8 in the branch pipe line[.];

9 wherein the pressure sustaining valve is configured to selectively open and close
10 depending on pressure in the return pipe line.

1 3. (Original) An air-conditioning system according to claim 2, wherein the
2 energy recovery apparatus comprises: an operation control device for controlling operation of the
3 energy recovery apparatus in such a manner that an inlet pressure falls within a predetermined
4 rate range with respect to an inlet pressure during operation at a rated discharge, when a
5 discharge passing through the energy-recovery apparatus changes.

1 4. (Cancelled).

1 5. (Currently amended) An air-conditioning system according to any one of
2 claims 2 or 3 to 4, wherein the energy recovery apparatus comprises: a water wheel including a
3 centrifugal impeller; a brushless permanent magnet synchronous generator; and a generator
4 controller for controlling the generator.

1 6. (Original) An air-conditioning system according to claim 5, wherein a
2 control valve is disposed in the return piping on the downstream side of the energy recovery
3 apparatus.

1 7. (Original) An air-conditioning system according to claim 6, wherein the
2 water wheel comprises pressure sensors for measuring inlet and outlet pressures upstream and
3 downstream thereof so as to transmit output signals to the generator controller, the generator
4 controller being capable of controlling a revolving speed of the generator incorporated to the
5 water wheel based on the output signals, and delivering a control signal to the generator, and a
6 power measuring device for measuring an output power of the generator to deliver a
7 measurement result to a control valve controller, the control valve controller being capable of
8 specifying a valve opening degree of the control valve based on the measurement result so as to
9 deliver a valve opening signal to the control valve.

1 8. (Original) The air-conditioning system according to claim 7, wherein the
2 revolving speed of the generator incorporated to the water wheel is increased in response to a
3 decrease in the discharge, and the increasing of the revolving speed of the generator incorporated

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- 4 to the water wheel is caused so as to reduce the valve opening degree of the control valve by the
- 5 control valve controller in association with the generator controller, when an output power of a
- 6 water wheel or an effective head drop thereof is smaller than a set value recorded in the
- 7 generator controller.